



**South Pasadena Public Library**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**MINUTES**  
**May 8, 2014**



**CONVENE:**

Board President Brendan Durrett called the regular meeting of the Library Board of Trustees of the South Pasadena Public Library to order in the Library Conference Room on May 8, 2014 at 7:05 p.m.

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Trustees Present

Brendan Durrett, President  
Ed Pearson, Vice President  
Ann Penn, Trustee

Also Present

Steve Fjeldsted, City Librarian  
Richard D. Schneider, MD, Councilmember  
Ann Messana, Friends Board President  
Claudia Morales, Community Prevention  
Coordinator, Day One  
Sean Faye, Library Administrative Secretary

**EXCUSED:** Constance Lue, Secretary  
Andy Lippman, Trustee

**MINUTES:** The minutes of the regular meeting of April 10, 2014 were reviewed – **MSC: Ed Pearson/Ann Penn – all approved**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**ACTION ITEMS:**

1. **2<sup>nd</sup> Request by Day One for the filmmaker of “Hungry for Change” to sell his DVD after the free program in the Community Room on 5/30/14** – Steve Fjeldsted reminded the Board that at the last Trustees meeting when this issue was introduced by then Community Prevention Coordinator Carolina Clark, the vote had been 2 in favor, 2 abstained and 1 absent. Steve consulted “Roberts Rules of Order Online” which was inconclusive as to whether the item was approved. He then consulted the City Attorney who stated that Board members should always vote unless there is a conflict of interest. The City Attorney stated that a City Council Resolution calls for a majority approval of Agenda items by Boards and Commissions. Steve then introduced Claudia Morales who has taken over the position of Community Prevention Coordinator from Carolina Clark. Steve noted that this will not be a Library-sponsored event, and as such any group renting the Community Room that wish to sell materials have to ask the Board’s permission. Steve told the Board that Carolina Clark had given the assurance that the filmmaker would come no matter what the Board decided and that no one would be denied seeing this film. Steve also said that he told Claudia before the meeting that even if the Board approves her request, it would still have to be approved by the City Manager.

Claudia said that Healthy South Pasadena is a non-profit coalition based in South Pasadena that is working with Day One to organize a screening of “Hungry for Change,” a documentary about healthy eating practices and how the human body processes nutrients. Steve added that many members of the South Pasadena community attend Day One events. Brendan Durrett asked if the DVD advertised the sale of a specific diet or product, to which Claudia replied that it does not. Ann Penn asked if the proceeds from the sale would go to Day One. Claudia replied that the

money would go to the filmmaker. Ann said that recent requests of this nature have been declined and that it is important for the Board to be consistent in their decisions. Dr. Schneider asked if this would be any different from the Restoration Concert Committee selling CDs at their events and Steve answered that the Restoration Concert Committee is an arm of the Friends. Steve continued by saying that the CDs sold at the Eclectic Music Festival, an event sponsored by the Library and the City, has helped the Library in getting top quality musicians to perform here. Brendan said he was inclined to allow Day One to sell DVDs as he would generally try to support local non-profit groups. Ann suggested that the policy be officially changed in the by-laws so that this discussion doesn't have to be repeated in the future. Ed Pearson agreed with Ann and said that this should be an Agenda item for a future meeting when all Trustees are present.

Steve said that he admired what Day One was doing and was pleased the Community Room was being used. Claudia added she loves the space and that Day One would continue to use it. Dr. Schneider made the suggestion that a sign-up sheet should be created to sell the DVDs for future transactions. Ed added that a slip of paper with information of how to obtain a copy of the DVD could be distributed. Dr. Schneider asked Claudia if there were any ambiguities and she replied that she understood. Brendan confirmed that it would be acceptable for Day One to solicit orders but not to conduct any sales transactions. Dr. Schneider asked Steve to consult the City Attorney regarding the Library possibly having different rules for out-of-town groups using the Community Room.

[Claudia Morales left the meeting at 7:24 p.m.]

Brendan said that they would need guidance from the City Attorney on how to proceed with future requests of this kind.

**MOTION: Ed Pearson said there wouldn't be a motion for this tonight. This will be an Agenda item for next month.**

2. **Proposed Surplus Discard of Library items** – Steve produced a list of broken items from the Community Room that were discovered when preparations were made for the 2014 Eclectic Music Festival Library Concert. These items included a dictionary stand, three folding tables, one chair dolly and a display stand.

**MOTION: Ed Pearson moved to authorize the Library to discard the items shown. MSC: Ed Pearson/Brendan Durrett – all approved.**

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. **Formation of Measure L Committee** – Ann Penn spoke with Philip Putnam and found that he is enthusiastic to serve on the committee. Ann thought his background would make him an ideal chairperson. Brendan Durrett spoke with Sally Kilby and learned she is also willing to serve on the committee in some capacity. Steve reported that Harry Knapp would be happy to be included and added that Margaret Leong may still have the contact list from the last Measure L Committee to get a core group started. Ann Penn said that the Library has built a very fine reservoir of goodwill from the community and offered to contact Victor and Gretchen Robinette to see if they'd be willing to participate. Ann also suggested asking Bob Vanderwall as he may have lists of people who have contributed to other committees and would be a valuable addition with his computer expertise. Ann Messina volunteered to serve and said she would ask other members of the Friends to get involved. Steve suggested asking Library staff to serve as private citizens so they can take some feelings of ownership for the process and outcome, but Dr. Schneider didn't think that would be necessary as he didn't think there should be much difficulty in getting members of the community to serve.

Other people suggested for the Measure L Committee were: Diana McGrail, Rose Barron, Dorothy Cohen, Philip and David Saeta, Reverend Lincoln Skinner, and Michael Henderson, the Youth Director at the YMCA.

Dr. Schneider urged that a timeline will need to be developed as Measure L is renewed every five years. Brendan said that this needs to be voted on a year before it expires and Dr. Schneider agreed.

Brendan suggested there be a Discussion Item for next month's meeting to go over the wording for Measure L.

2. **Possibilities for Trustee Acknowledgement of Young Library Volunteers for 2014** – In order to incorporate young Library volunteers into the Volunteer Recognition process, Maida Wong the Children's Librarian was asked for her input. Maida suggested that a thank you postcard from the Trustees would be a good gesture as these volunteers already get community service credits from their schools, acknowledgement of their hours and the Summer Reading Program volunteers get a T-shirt. Brendan offered the possibility of having the luncheon on a weekend or during Spring Break, as the luncheon is regularly scheduled on days when the young volunteers are in school. Ann Messana cautioned Brendan that there are as many young volunteers as there are adult volunteers and added that she didn't think the kids would attend as the luncheon would be eight months after the Summer Reading Program had ended. Ann Penn suggested an event to honor the youth volunteers be held in early September, as that would be soon after the Summer Reading Program has ended. Ed Pearson thought that the Volunteer Recognition Proclamation should also specifically recognize the youth of the community. Ed continued by saying that the adults should get the luncheon and the youth can get postcards or certificates. Steve said that it would be easy to add the age ranges and their hours of the youth to the Proclamation. Steve suggested that someone from the Youth Commission should be invited to the next meeting to share their input. Ed and Brendan agreed with this idea. Brendan would like Maida to weigh in with her opinion about the certificate and said this topic should be a Discussion Item for next month's meeting.
3. **Meeting with Superintendent Yantz on May 7<sup>th</sup> at Noon** – Brendan and Steve met with the new Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Geoff Yantz, for a half hour on 5/7/14. Dr. Yantz was familiar with the current state of development for the SPUSD parking lot and soon provided the section of the pending agreement related to parking with the developer. Dr. Yantz assured Steve and Brendan that any finalization of plans for the SPUSD parking lot was at least a year off and expressed an interest in working with the Library to allot parking spaces for Library staff and volunteers. Steve sent Dr. Yantz a thank you letter and provided him with a copy of the South Pasadena Centennial history book.
4. **Library Proposed Budget FY 2014/2015** – Steve said there haven't been any new developments. Steve communicated with both the City Manager Sergio Gonzalez and Councilmember Mahmud, who were in favor of getting a new sound system for the Community Room, but there haven't been any formal discussions. Steve added that he saw four council members attended the Eclectic Music Festival at the Library concert. Brendan said he attended the City Budget discussion meeting on 4/23/14, but that the topic of the Library hadn't been addressed. Steve said he feels that we are currently in a good place.
5. **Statewide Library Initiatives** – Steve said the Governor's Broadband Initiative to bring the CENIC high speed fiber optic network to public libraries which is already being used by schools, passed a Senate Budget sub-committee. Steve also said the Library Construction Act Bond Bill passed the Senate Finance committee vote. Brendan asked if the Bond Act would affect this Library and Steve replied that it probably wouldn't unless we could raise some money and get a firm written commitment for parking from the School District. One factor working against us is

that this money is usually awarded to libraries in remote locations. However if we had a project underway, such as an expansion of our space into the Senior Center next door, there would be a possibility it could help us receive a highly competitive grant from the State.

6. **South Pasadena Santa Fe Railroad depot exhibit** – Steve said the Santa Fe depot model and all photos have been removed from the display case. The original train depot sign is still on the wall, opposite the Circulation Desk and the other train station signs may one day go on display at the Meridian Ironworks Museum. Brendan thought the sign looks terrific and Steve agreed and said he thinks it has been a source of local pride and will keep the sign where it is for now. Steve added that he has Fletcher Swan's permission to rearrange the depot photos and display them again at some point in the future.
7. **Eclectic Music Festival Follow-up** – Steve reported that Councilmember Schneider, Councilmember Mahmud, Councilmember Cacciotti, Mayor Pro Tem Joe and about 1,000 other people were in attendance for the six performances. Only three acts were originally scheduled to perform but the Chamber of Commerce pushed for more due to the lack of playing spaces. The festival ran late but was very successful and was the cover of that week's *Pasadena Weekly*. The Friends and Rotary Club each gave grants of \$1,000. The headliners, Tony and Eliza Gilkyson, grew up in South Pasadena and their father, Terry Gilkyson, was a nationally known songwriter. It was a hometown event for them and they spoke about South Pasadena in between songs. Special Guest Van Dyke Parks gave Eliza's introduction and joined the Gilkysons on piano for some songs. Steve thanked the Restoration Concert Committee for allowing Van Dyke Parks to use their Steinway piano. Steve suggested for next year that the Library Carnegie Stage Concert for the Eclectic Music Festival should go from 5:00-9:00 p.m. with 20 minutes to set up in between acts.

**CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS:** Ann Penn said that no report has been issued yet from the Feasibility Committee for the Community Center Ad Hoc Committee.

**REPORTS:**

**Board President:** None to report.

**Trustee:** None to report.

**City Council Liaison:** None to report

**Friends Representative:** Ann Messana said she is encouraging other members of the Friends to participate in the Library Operations Study and was very interested to read the next draft of it when it becomes available.

**Trustee Liaison to Friends:** None.

**City Librarian:**

- Steve said that the Ichinose family has donated \$1,500 for the Austin Ichinose CD collection and that they have also paid for additional CD racks. Ann Messana said a suggestion box should be placed next to the CD racks and Steve said he has asked the City to provide an online suggestion forum on the City's website.
- Mark Hatch, who performed at the Eclectic Music Festival, will donate his personal collection of 1,500 jazz CDs to the Library.
- On 5/15/14 David Boulé will present an Author Night for his new book, "The Orange and the Dream of California" which has just been published by Angel City Press.



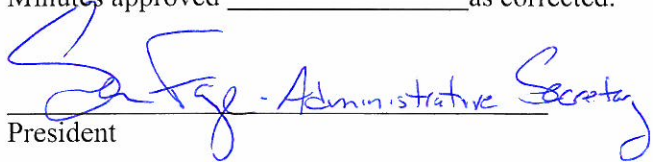
- On 5/22/14 two filmmakers from New York, Bruce Alan Johnson and Christine Toy Johnson, will present their documentary, "Transcending: The Wat Misaka Story," which depicts the inspiring tale of the first non-Caucasian to play in the NBA in the 1940s.
- On 6/21/14 Matt Ritter will return to the Library Community Room to present an Author Night on his book, "A Californian's Guide to the Trees Among Us." The Library will try to partner with several groups for this event.
- Ed Pearson asked for more information about a meeting scheduled for 5/22/14 in Ontario for Library Trustees. Steve said it will be a meeting for Library managers, supporters and Friends. Ann Messina added that it is a great conference that teaches how to build relationships within volunteer organizations and fundraising. Kristen Dube will attend this year.
- Steve thanked Sean Faye for his help in running the Jill Gold Wright Music Author Night on 4/24/14 in Steve's absence. Steve had been away on a personal matter and returned at the end of the event.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting of the Library Board of Trustees will be a Special Meeting for the Library Operations Study held on 5/19/14 in the Amedee O. "Dick" Richards Council Chambers at South Pasadena City Hall at 7 p.m. The next regular meeting for the Library Board of Trustees will be on 6/12/14 in the Amedee O. "Dick" Richards Council Chambers at South Pasadena City Hall at 7 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The regular meeting of May 8, 2014 was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Minutes approved \_\_\_\_\_ as written.

Minutes approved \_\_\_\_\_ as corrected.

  
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President